

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAPE T 00702 081358Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAC-00 INRE-00 HA-05 OMB-01
ACDA-12 ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-10 /122 W
-----060293 081408Z /14

O R 081324Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7079
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 702

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, SF, WA
SUBJECT: CONTACT GROUP DISCUSSION OF SECURITY COUNCIL
STRATEGY ON NAMIBIA

REF: USUN 1314,

1. I AGREE WITH USUN (REFTEL) THAT WE SHOULD NOT ALLOW SAG
ATTITUDES TO DETERMINE THE WESTERN APPROACH IN THE SECURITY
COUNCIL. OUR OBJECTIVE IS TO MAINTAIN STEADY PRESSURE ON
BOTH SOUTH AFRICA AND SWAPO BY DEMONSTRATING INTERNATIONAL
BACKING OF THE PROPOSAL AND IF POSSIBLE INITIATE STEPS
TOWARD IMPLEMENTATION.

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2. IF WE CAN OBTAIN SECURITY COUNCIL APPROVAL OF EITHER THE
PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE OR FALLBACK A (REFTEL), WHICH WOULD
INVOLVE IMPLEMENTATION, IT WOULD GIVE STRONG MOMENTUM
TO THE EFFORT. FOR SWAPO IT WOULD MEAN THAT THE FRONT
LINE AND KEY MEMBERS OF OAU BACKED THE PLAN. THIS IN
TURN WOULD INCREASE THE RISK TO SOUTH AFRICA OF TOTAL

ISOLATION AND HENCE FURTHER INHIBIT THE INCLINATION TO GO FOR AN INTERNAL SETTLEMENT. IF WE HAVE TO SETTLE FOR THE RESOLUTION DESCRIBED AS FALLBACK B, IT WOULD RAISE EXPECTATIONS (OR HOPES) IN THE SAG THAT THE INITIATIVE WAS FALTERING. WE CAN BE FAIRLY CERTAIN THAT IF ASKED, THE SOUTH AFRICAN WOULD STRONGLY OPPOSE EITHER OF THE FIRST TWO ALTERNATIVE RESOLUTIONS INVOLVING IMPLEMENTATION.

3. WITHOUT WISHING TO UNDERPLAY THE ADVERSE REACTION IN SOME QUARTERS OF THE CABINET IF WE PROCEED ALONG THE LINES OF THE FIRST TWO ALTERNATIVES, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT REACTION WOULD BE "CATASTROPHIC." SUCCESS ALONG THE LINES OF EITHER ALTERNATIVE WOULD HAVE A FURTHER SOBERING EFFECT ON SAG DECISION MAKERS WHO FEAR THE DANGER OF ADDITIONAL SANCTIONS.

4. THERE MIGHT BE ADVANTAGES IN FOREWARNING THE SAG OF THE TYPE OF RESOLUTION FOR WHICH WE ARE AIMING. ON BALANCE, HOWEVER, I BELIEVE WE SHOULD NOT INVITE REJECTION BY SEEMING TO CONSULT THEM ON OUR PLANS. WE SUGGEST THAT JUST PRIOR TO PRESENTATION OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION AGREED UPON, WE INFORM THE SAG AND SWAPO OF ITS TERMS AND UNDERScore THAT THE SYG WOULD CONSULT THEM BEFORE MAKING THE SELECTION OF THE UNSR.

5. THE SAG IS PROBABLY ALREADY AWARE OF THE GENERAL
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THRUST OF OUR EFFORTS. THE CAPE TIMES, APRIL 8, CARRIES A STORY FROM NEW YORK REPORTING THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL BY FRIDAY (APRIL 14) "AT THE LATEST" WILL BE ASKED TO AUTHORIZE THE APPOINTMENT OF A SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL "TO PREPARE FOR A MAJOR UN MILITARY AND CIVIL ROLE IN THE TERRITORY THROUGHOUT THE ELECTIONS."
BOWDLER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CAPET00702
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780152-0637
Format: TEL
From: CAPE TOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780478/aaaacofe.tel
Line Count: 102
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 63b4aab3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 USUN NEW YORK 1314
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3031033
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONTACT GROUP DISCUSSION OF SECURITY COUNCIL STRATEGY ON NAMIBIA
TAGS: PORG, SF, WA, UNSC
To: USUN NEW YORK STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/63b4aab3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014